CONSIDERED ONE OF THE SEVEN WONDERS OF EDEN ACADEMY, STUDENTS WHISPER ABOUT THIS LEGENDARY CONFECTION IN HUSHED TONES.

THE PASTRY OF KNOWL-EDGE.

MISSION 42

BECAUSE SO MANY OF THOSE LUCKY ENOUGH TO EAT THIS PASTRY HAVE GONE ON TO BECOME IMPERIAL SCHOLARS, A RUMOR WAS BORN...

STORIES ABOUND OF A MYSTERIOUS PATISSIER WHO APPEARS UNANNOUNCED IN THE CAFETERIA AND, AS IF ON A WHIM, OFFERS EXTRAORDINARILY DELICIOUS DESSERTS.

EVEN TODAY, THERE ARE THOSE WITHIN EDEN'S STUDENT BODY WHO VIGILANTLY AWAIT AN OPPORTUNITY TO ORDER IT.

"IT'S A DESSERT THAT MAKES YOU INSTANTLY SMARTER!"

MISSION 42

NO, I'M JUST ANOTHER VERSION OF YOU.

WAIT! CAN IT BE? YOU'RE THE PRINCE I MET THAT DAY!

NOPE, I'M A GIRL SHEEP, JUST LIKE YOU.

THOSE EYES! THAT HAIR! NO, I'M SURE OF IT... YOU'RE MY PRINCE! HOW I LOVE YOU!

NO, I DON'T WANT THEM TO FIGHT. THEY'LL GET ALL SCRATCHED UP.

IT'S ANYA'S TURN NEXT. IT'LL BE A BATTLE STORY WITH TWINS SEPARATED AT BIRTH.

GAH!

IGNORE THAT FOR THE SAKE OF THE STORY!

BUT THEY LOOK EXACTLY THE SAME.

COME ON, ANYA! CAN'T YOU JUST PLAY ALONG?!

This isn't any fun!

AT THE END OF THE TERM, THEY'RE GOING TO DIVIDE US INTO NEW CLASSES BY ABILITY.

?

OH! DID YOU HEAR THE NEWS?

YOU COULD BE! SO YOU'D BETTER START APPLYING YOURSELF!

I'M GONNA BE ALL BY MYSELF?!

GASP

WE'RE BEING SEPARATED BASED ON OUR PERFORMANCE. SO BASICALLY, KIDS LIKE ME WHO ARE PRETTY GOOD AT SCHOOL WILL BE IN ONE CLASS, AND KIDS LIKE YOU WILL BE IN ANOTHER.

EXCEEDS STANDARD

MEETS STANDARD

NEAR STANDARD

OTHER

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

IT'S HAPPEN-ING!!

PSST, LET'S GO! RIGHT NOW!

WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?

YEAH, I'M DOOMED.

AND ONE OF THOSE IS ON ***CLASSICAL LANGUAGE.*** UGH!

RUMOR HAS IT THAT IT'LL BE BASED ON NOT JUST MIDTERMS AND FINALS, BUT TOMORROW'S QUIZZES TOO.

DO YOU SERIOUSLY NOT KNOW?!

HUH? WHAT PASTRIES?

WSP

WSP

THE PASTRIES! THEY'RE SELLING THEM IN DINING HALL 2!

A FORMER ROYAL CHEF IS VISITING TODAY! HE'S MADE THE PASTRIES OF KNOWLEDGE!

THEY'RE LEGENDARY! EAT ONE, AND YOU'RE A LOCK FOR IMPERIAL SCHOLAR!

O-OKAY!

FWSH

THE SUPPLY'S SUPER LIMITED! WE GOTTA GET OURS BEFORE THEY RUN OUT!

APPAR-ENTLY THEY'RE MACARONS THIS YEAR!

FWIP

WELL, IT'S PROBABLY JUST A SUPERSTITION, BUUUUT IT COULDN'T HURT, RIGHT?!

TMP TMP TMP TMP

IF I EAT ONE, EVEN I COULD BE A GENIUS!

SHF

WE NEED TO HURRY, BEFORE THEY—

HUH?

THERE! THAT'S GOTTA BE IT!

YAY!

YAY!

NOT TO MENTION, MACARONS FROM A FORMER ROYAL CHEF? I WANT TO TRY 'EM!

Bet they're amazing! ♡

What's a mawk-uh-ron?

UGH!

Stubby legs.

Spy-on boy.

TMP TMP TMP TMP

DUH! SAME REASON YOU ARE!

WHY ARE YOU ALL IN SUCH A HURRY?

TOMP

HMPH!

NO WAY AM I LETTING THEM GET THIS!

NGH!

STELLA STARS ARE ON THE LINE!

TOMP

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED!

ONLY ONE ORDER LEFT OF THE SPECIAL PIERRE POMMIER MACARON SET!

PIERRE POMMIE MACARO

!!

HERE YOU ARE, SIR.

I'LL HAVE ONE, PLEASE.

...

I can't wait!

NOW MAYBE EVEN I CAN GET A STELLA STAR!

YAY! IT'S MY LUCKY DAY.

SOLD OUT

TODAY'S SPECIAL ITEM IS NOW SOLD OUT.

Go me!

BWAH! AM I BEING MUGGED ?!

HAND THAT OVER, RIGHT NOW! THAT BELONGS TO ME!

AAAR GH

DAMMIT, GEORGE! THAT'S MINE!

I'M MAD ABOUT THE LEAF.

I SANG FOR YOU UNDER FALSE PRE-TENSES! IT WAS SO EMBARRASS-ING!

UH...

HEY! YOU NEVER RETURNED THAT STATIONERY SET!

URGH ...

I BOUGHT THIS WITH MY OWN PALTRY ALLOWANCE! IT'S MINE BY RIGHT!

YANK

I KNEW YOU WERE A GOOD GUY, GEORGE!

And then we're even!

URGH... OKAY, FINE! IT'S A SET OF FIVE MACARONS, SO YOU CAN HAVE THE OTHER FOUR.

A FIERCE BATTLE ROYALE ENSUED BETWEEN THE FIVE IMPERIAL SCHOLAR HOPEFULS.

RMB

RMB

AND THUS ...

RMB

RMB

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

THE OTHER FOUR ...

SH

...OF OLD MAID.

AH!!

A SINGLE ROUND ...

I'VE NEVER PLAYED CARDS BEFORE.

What are the rules?

FINE BY ME.

NO MACARON FOR THE LOSER.

THE PASTRY OF KNOWLEDGE WOULD BE WASTED ON SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T EVEN KNOW OLD MAID.

LET'S PASS THE JOKER AROUND TILL WE CAN STICK HER WITH IT.

ROGER THAT.

GLANCE

BA

BEGIN!

IN

DING

JOKER

10

6

3

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

YOU TRY TO MAKE PAIRS OF CARDS WITH THE SAME NUMBER, WHILE AVOIDING BEING STUCK WITH THE JOKER.

It's easy.

OKEY DOKEY.

...

ALL RIGHT. IT'S YOUR TURN.

AH HA HA. WHAT A DOOF.

I'LL JUST PUT THE JOKER FRONT AND CENTER, AND BURY THIS SIX BEHIND THE OTHER CARDS...

GO ON. PICK ONE.

SHF

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL US THAT, ANYA.

OKAY, I'VE GOT A SIX, A FOUR, AND A TEN...

KRRK

FLIP

THAT WAS AMAZING, ANYA!

YOINK

SIX!

HUH ?!

WHAM

THE LETTER A!

WHAM

FOUR!

THE OLD GUY!

WHAM

TEN!

WHAM

HEH.

THAT... THAT WAS BEGINNER'S LUCK!

I GOT RID OF ALL MY CARDS!

WIN

I DID IT!

NER!

DON'T CALL HER A CHEATER JUST BECAUSE YOU LOST!

YOU MARKED THE CARDS SOME-HOW!

HE'S RIGHT! YOU CHEATED!

GASP

HOLD ON! THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE THAT GOOD!

IF THAT WASN'T CHEATING, THEN THE ONLY POSSIBLE EXPLANATION IS THAT SHE CAN READ MINDS SOMEHOW!

JOLT

Grr...

AND NO CHEATING THIS TIME!

I WASN'T!

WE'RE USING A BRAND-NEW DECK OF CARDS!

And changing the order!

WHAAAT?! YOU DON'T NEED TO GIVE IN TO THEM!

HMPH. IF YOU'RE THAT UPSET, THEN LET'S JUST PLAY AGAIN.

OOPS. GUESS I TOOK THAT A LITTLE TOO FAR...

GULP

THAT WAS TOO CLOSE... I NEED TO MAKE MISTAKES ON PURPOSE SO HE DOESN'T FIGURE OUT THAT I'M A TELLYPATH!

FLP FLP

SHE'S RIGHT THERE IN THE MIDDLE. GO AHEAD AND TAKE IT!

MUST... PICK... WRONG... CARD!

...

GO AHEAD.

SO THE OLD MAID HAS FOUND HER WAY TO ME...

Mm.

OH, GOLLY. I SEEM TO HAVE UNAWAREFULLY PULLED THE OLD MAID!

FWSH

I NEED TO BECOME A COOL LIAR, LIKE PAPA!

THAT WAS CLOSE. IF I GET EXPELLED, WE FAIL THE MISSION!

HEH. DARN MY BAD LUCK!

Gya ha ha!

NO HITTING, ANYA! DON'T DO IT!

WELP, GUESS IT'S TIME TO BREAK OUT MY...

Ngh

YOU'RE SO DUMB, YOU DUMMY!

BWA HA HA HA HA! YOU SUCK!

HAH!

RMB
RMB
RMB
RMB
...
CHOOSE.
BESIDES, THIS IS FINE. ALL I NEED TO DO IS PASS THE OLD MAID TO DAMIAN AND I'M GOOD!
GASP
GASP
GASP
JOKER
JOKER
AND I'M OUT TOO!
I'M OUT!
YAY!
OH NO! I STILL CAN'T GET RID OF THE OLD MAID!
COULD IT BE THAT SY-ON BOY READS MINDS TOO?!
AND THAT'S A PAIR.
FWIP
GULP
!!
COULD SHE BE ANY EASIER TO READ?

ВЖИР

ВЖИР

ВЖИР

ВЖИР

ВЖИР

ВЖИР

COME ON, ANYA! YOU CAN DO THIS!

SHUT UP!

WOW, YOU SUCK TOO, DAMIAN.

BADMP

BADMP

I CAN'T MESS THIS UP! I NEED TO TRICK HIM INTO PICKING THE JOKER!

AS LONG AS I CAN SEE HER FACE, THIS GAME IS MINE!

THIS PICK DECIDES THE GAME.

HERE I GO.

KA-THMP

KA-THMP

GULP

I'LL FAIL MY TESTS AND HAVE TO BE IN A DIFFERENT CLASS FROM BECKY!

IF I LOSE THIS, I WON'T GET A COOKIE, AND I'LL STILL BE DUMB!

THIS HAS TO BE THE ONE SHE DOESN'T WANT ME TO...HUH?

HA!

I'LL BE ALL BY MYSELF!

...!!

OH NO...

N-NO ...

OKAY, HERE'S EVERYONE'S SHARE.

Dammit!

NO FAIR, CRYING LIKE THAT...

SY-ON BOY...

TMP

SHUT UP!

WHAT WERE YOU THINKING, TAKING THE JOKER LIKE THAT, BOSS MAN?

I CAN'T WAIT!

YAY! THIS LOOKS SO GOOD!

DO YOU WANT HALF?

NO! BECAUSE I DON'T NEED IT, YOU IDIOT! I DON'T NEED SOME STUPID COOKIE TO BECOME AN IMPERIAL SCHOLAR!

THAT'S FOR DUMMIES LIKE YOU!

Let's eat, Anya.

HOW RUDE!

TMP TMP TMP

SOON I'LL HAVE A STELLA STAR TOO!

NOM NOM

SOOO GOOD!

CHOMP

I AM SO READY FOR THIS!

OH...

BADMP...

BADMP...

SKRIT SKRIT SKRIT SKRIT SKRIT SKRIT

RAWWR!

SKRIT SKRIT SKRIT SKRIT SKRIT SKRIT

?

RAWWR!

RAWWR!

YOU MAY BEGIN YOUR QUIZZES.

SKRIT SKRIT

RAWWR!

BADUMP

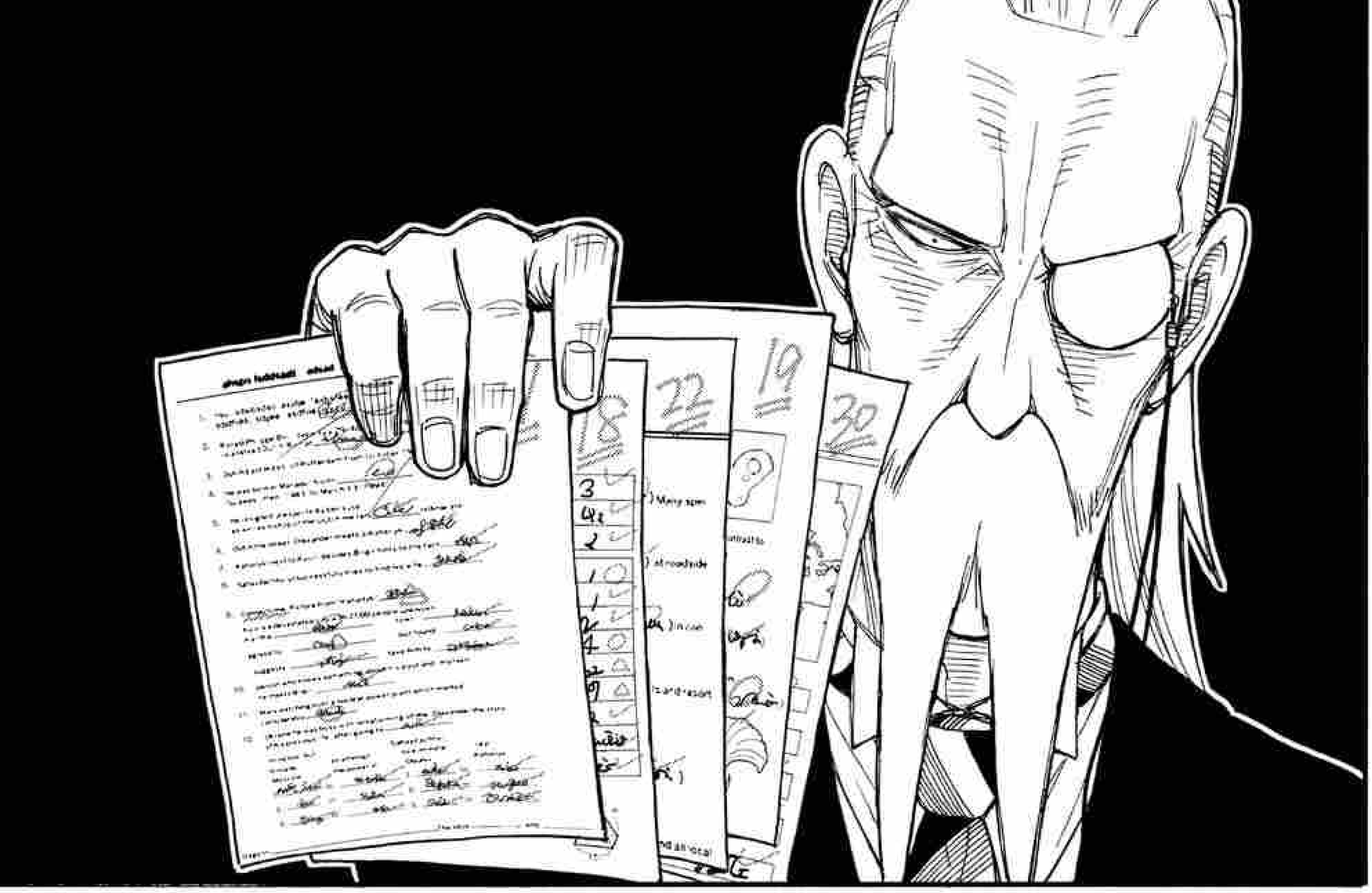
BADUMP

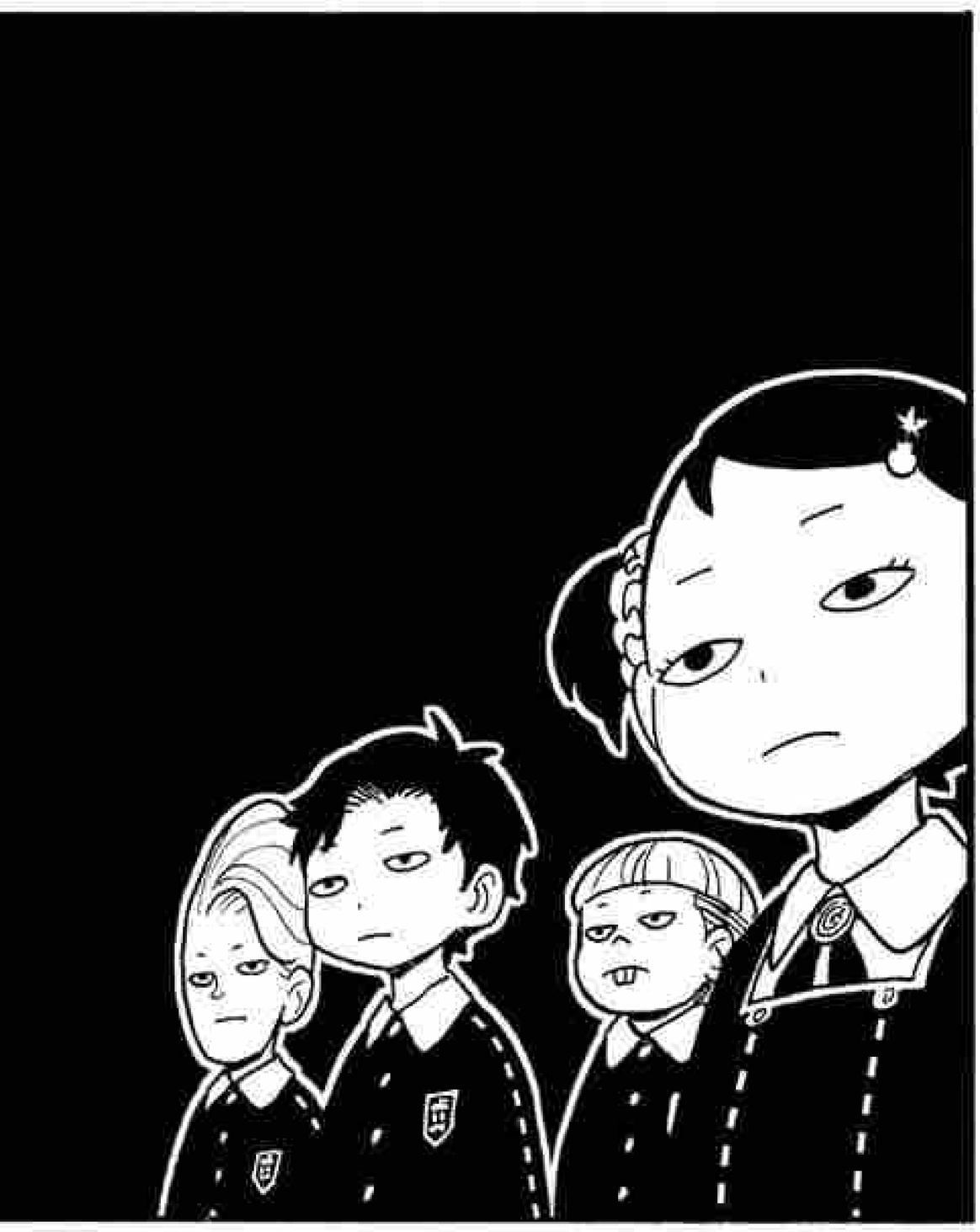
BADUMP

RAWWR!

HUH ?!

RIING RIING





AT LEAST YOU AREN'T ALREADY ALL ALONE, LIKE I AM.

D-DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT! YOU'LL MAKE IT UP ON YOUR FINALS!

RIIING

WELL, SO MUCH FOR MY LIFE HERE AT EDEN.

Huh...

HER SCHOLASTIC ABILITES HAVE IMPROVED SLIGHTLY, BUT WE STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO...

HM?

I'M GONNA GO CRY MYSELF TO SLEEP...

BOY, THESE SCHOOL TESTS SURE ARE TOUGH!

TRUDGE TRUDGE

IF SHE HADN'T LOST SO MANY POINTS FOR SPELLING MISTAKES, SHE ACTUALLY WOULD'VE DONE QUITE WELL.

THIS CLASSICAL LANGUAGE TEST...

SOB

AND THEY'VE BARELY STUDIED CLASSICAL LANGUAGE AT ALL.

COULD SHE SOMEHOW BE WELL ACQUAINTED WITH IT DUE TO HER UPBRINGING?

BUT IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S A COUNTRY WHERE THEY STILL SPEAK THAT WAY TODAY...

NO.

AND I TRIED MY HAND AT MAKING DESSERT!

WORF?!

HAM-BURG STEAK !!!

HEY, ANYA! I MADE YOUR FAVORITE HAMBURG STEAK FOR DINNER!

THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY POINT TO THAT.

SPY×FAMILY